



U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service

# Conservation Security Program West Virginia 2005



*Here are two of the 12  
Cedar Ridge Farm  
livestock water  
developments.*



*Thomas K. Jr. and  
Penny Porter raise  
beef cattle on their  
Cedar Ridge Farm.*

## Stewardship has its rewards: Cedar Ridge Farm is among West Virginia's First CSP Contracts

Thomas K. Jr. and Penny Porter are recognized by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service as some of the state's first Conservation Security Program (CSP) participants.

CSP is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to

promote the conservation and improvement of soil, water, air, energy, plant and animal life, and other conservation purposes on Tribal and private working lands. Twelve farms are enrolled in West Virginia's 2005 CSP program.

## Conservation is the Lifeblood of our farm

Cedar Ridge Farm is located in Doddridge County about 5 miles north of West Union on Rt. 18, near the Tyler county line. The farm is a beef cow/calf operation with 50 cow/calf pairs and 2 bulls.

"Conservation is the lifeblood of our farm. Conservation allows the farm to be productive and helps us set goals. Goals are easier to achieve with the support of the various agencies and programs through USDA" said Mr. Porter.

Cedar Ridge Farm Conservation Practices include two livestock feeding pads, roofed animal waste system, 12 livestock water developments, heavy use area protection, pasture and hay land

planting, prescribed grazing, and nutrient management. Porters operate a managed intensive grazing system (MIG) where cattle are rotated through 25 paddocks. The cattle are rotated every 1 to 2 days depending on stocking rate, paddock size, and seasonal re-growth conditions. Temporary electric fencing is often used to sub-divide fields into grazing units.

"Cedar Ridge Farm has had over a 20 year history of applying conservation practices" said Jeff Griffith, District Conservationist at the Mount Clare Service Center. The farm is located in the Little Muskingum-Middle Island Creeks Watershed.

## West Virginia CSP Quick Facts for 2005:

**Watersheds:** 3

**Watershed Acreage:**  
1,879,000

**Estimated Number of  
Farms & Ranches:** 1,293

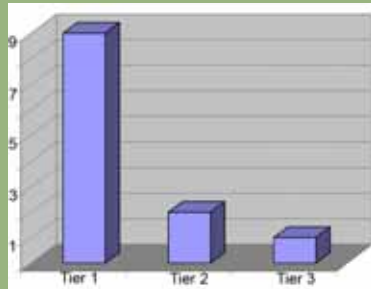
**Cropland:** 48,300 acres

**Grazing Land:** 140,900  
acres

### CSP Participation:

Sought info on CSP: 151  
Attended workshops: 76  
Applied: 14  
Enrolled: 12

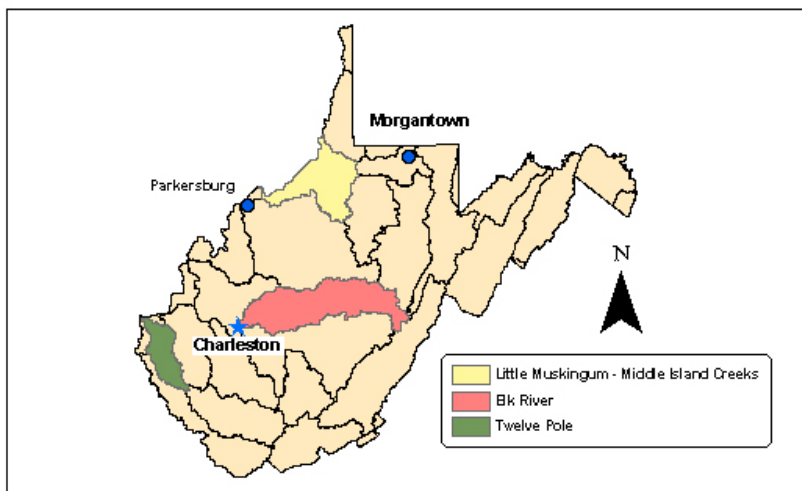
### Tier Distribution:



### Typical Enhancements:

- Riparian buffers
- Legumes for nitrogen
- Delayed mowing
- Water supply management

## West Virginia 2005 CSP Highlights



Watershed	Total CSP Applications Approved	Tier 1	Tier II	Tier III
Elk River Watershed	3	2	1	-
Twelvepole Creek Watershed	1	1	-	-
Little Muskingum-Middle Island Creeks Watershed	8	6	1	1
<b>TOTAL Contracts</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>TOTAL 05 Payments</b>	<b>\$20,153</b>	<b>\$18,530</b>	<b>\$705</b>	<b>\$918</b>

## CSP 2005 in West Virginia

In 2005, conservation stewards in 3 selected watersheds in West Virginia had the opportunity to participate in USDA's new Conservation Security Program. Selected watersheds include: Elk River, Twelve Pole Creek, Little Muskingum-Middle Island Creeks.

The selection of these three watersheds in West Virginia represents a balance of resource needs, historic stewardship, potential producer eligibility, and the technology and adequate staff needed to successfully implement the program description of unique areas, landscapes, soils, wildlife habitats, significant State resource issues, etc.

For more information about CSP and other NRCS conservation programs, see [www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/programs](http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/programs)

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